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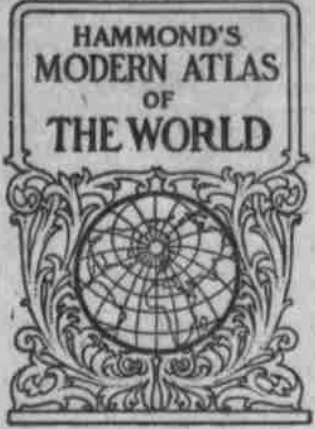
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Even when you're sitting you keep your back straight. There is an air of real strength about you—both physical and mental. In short, you have plenty of backbone. You are determined, energetic and to be relied upon.

If your back is stooping and rounded you are a creature as weak as you look, you are prone to loitering about and too lazy or too feeble to take a front rank in the battle of life. The tramp is an excellent example.

If you are a criminal, your back is stooped or round, but the scholarly stoop of the bookworm must not be confounded with the foregoing. There is a difference which is difficult to describe, but it is readily recognized by the close observer.

If you are mean and covetous your back is narrow and rounded and your shoulders are high. You are sly—very sly. You generally have the appearance of drawing yourself up into as small a compass as possible. You are always yourself, so to speak, and people should give you the cold shoulder.

Are you too straight backed? That is, do you hold your head so high that there is a preposterous fall in the small of your back? Then you are so puffed up with self-esteem that you carry your chest out so far it's absurd.

SEEMED TO NEED A DOCTOR

Varied Ailments of the Somewhat Afflicted Family as Catalogued by the Mother.

"Yes, Doc," said the mother of a family of nine to the young doctor who had ridden 16 miles into the backwoods in the dead of night, "we are a somewhat afflicted family, an' as home doctorin' don't seem to do no good, I thought I'd send for you an' see if you could straighten us out. Janey here, she's got something wrong with her bronchial tubes so she don't breathe like she should. I been keepin' a rag spread with goose grease an' sprinkled with red pepper an' mustard on her front chest, but it seems to add to her agny. Jake, he's got a misery all up an' down his spinal bone, an' I been usin' kerosene both external an' internal; but it ain't done him no good. Lizzie Belle, she's about ready to give up with plum-bago, an' her sister Nancy has been feelin' mean for a week. I think that it's skatle roomatiz that ails Nancy, but she's afraid it's the new disease they calls appendicitis. The old man has been terrible slimy for some days, an' Rube, our oldest boy, is all broke out with a rash that shows his blood ain't all right. He had a terrible spell las' night, an' I thought he was in for cholery infantum. He's had it off an' on ever since he was 16 years old. I reckoned he'd outgrown it, but it grabs him as hard now that he's 24 as it did when he was younger. Wisht, Doc, that you'd just turn yourself loose an' see if you kin sort o' straighten us out."—Judge.

Remarkable Popular Ignorance.
Some one has remarked that at the height of Napoleon's fame there were men in the back alleys of Paris who had never heard his name. This illustration of popular ignorance was recalled by a judge who was examining candidates for citizenship in New York city recently. He asked one of these prospective citizens, "Who is the head of your native country?" "The king." "Who becomes the head when he dies?" "His son." "And who is the head of this country?" "The president." "And who would become the head if he died?" "His son." And yet, as the judge remarked, all these men know enough to earn their daily bread—the rest is a matter of schooling.

Fortunes Spent in Trousseau.
The elaborate trousseaux of members of the smart set would have made a queen bride of a century ago open her eyes with amazement. It is an ordinary thing for the daughter of a millionaire on getting her bridal finery ready to order 20 or 30 hats, trimmed with ostrich and other feathers, to harmonize with as many gowns. Every gown needs a distinct hat. The equipment of a rich bride is looked on as incomplete if it does not contain at least 30 gowns and such a trousseau does not mean the bride will get no more dresses for a year. When lingerie and little ornaments also are taken into consideration, it is plain a young girl in New York's smart set must spend many thousands of dollars for her outfit and several women have spent \$80,000 to \$100,000.

Treatment of Wet Shoes.
If you get caught in the rain with a good pair of shoes on, remove them as soon as you enter the house, and if you do not possess a pair of trees, stuff them tight and hard with tissue paper, squeezing it well into shape. Wipe off all the mud with a soft rag. Place the shoes in a draught, soles upward, and let them dry slowly. On no account put them to dry by the fire.
*Never forget to place your shoes on trees or to stuff them with paper when they are not in wear.

Former Telegrapher Corrected the Error of Two Young Men in a Memphis Hotel.

One whose ear has been trained to read intelligently the click of a telegraph instrument sometimes puts this training to the test under strange conditions. An instance, which resulted in embarrassment, apologies, and finally in a pleasant acquaintanceship among the persons concerned, is told by a certain Ohio farmer who spent his early years in the employ of the Western Union Telegraph company.

Some years after impaired health had driven him from the telegraph office to the farm, he and his wife were spending a short vacation in the south. While they were dining in a hotel in Memphis two young men entered and seated themselves at the same table with the couple from the west.

After a survey of the strangers, one of the youths took up his fork, and tapping it in an apparently careless way against the edge of his plate, spelled out in the Morse code:

"Do you think they are bride and groom?"

"Yes, surely," tapped his companion. "Just watch how soft they are."

Immediately, to the dismay of the young men, the fork of the supposed bridegroom joined in the conversation. With great rapidity it tapped out:

"Gentlemen, you are mistaken. We have been married five years, and have three children."—Youth's Companion.

ALL WASTE NERVOUS ENERGY

Everywhere People Squander Their Force Needlessly Instead of Carefully Husbanding It.

People should be as careful of their nervous energy as of their money, says an English writer. Yet we all waste it. At the telephone people talk twice as loudly and energetically as is necessary. That is to say, they use up twice as much nerve energy as they need. Three-fourths of those who have to catch trains every morning spend as much nervous force in one day as should last a week.

Then, in the streets, watch how people jostle and push, and what a lot of nerve-force they spend at dangerous crossings. Why not walk slowly when there is obstruction, and wait for the quiet moment, which always comes, at the crossing? Everywhere people hurry without need, getting in to a state of nervous tension when leaving theaters, boarding omnibuses going to lunch, and especially when leaving for a holiday.

Bird's Home Instinct.
Spectators at a fire witnessed an interesting, if tragic, example of the actions of a bird which was guided only by the instinct that its home was in danger. The flames had been to creep along the edge of the tower and every shingle on the roof was puffing a little jet of flame, when down wheeled a pigeon which had been dislodged from the tower and lit in the midst of the fire and smoke. Picking its way along, utter oblivious to the flames that must have been singeing its feathers, the pigeon went straight for its nest. A tongue of flame leaped out and the pigeon soared into the air. Then, as if irresistibly drawn into it, the bird dived into the furnace beneath and disappeared from sight.—Pasadena News.

Fortunate Pribiloff Islanders.
A curious and interesting people are the Pribiloff Islanders in Bering sea. When the United States government took over the islands, along with Alaska, the Russian colonists became in a measure wards of the nation, but they have remained true to the influence to which they were first subjected, and in some respects are today more Russian than American at heart. All of them are members of the Russian church, and all of them have Russian names, selected for the most part from among the nobility. The United States government has in this instance been a faithful guardian of a primitive people. The result is that today they are the most highly civilized, best clothed, best fed, and most healthy of all the natives of Alaska.

Home Influence on Writing.
Environment has been held responsible for many human frailties, but it is only lately that it has had to shoulder the blame for poor handwriting. "Even more than temperament and copy books environment influences a child's handwriting," said a handwriting expert. "If he sees a fashionable writing or a clear business hand on tables and desks at home he will imitate that unconsciously. If only an uneducated scrawl meets him there, he, too, will scrawl, let his instruction at school be ever so thorough."

Friday Dickens' Lucky Day.
Charles Dickens was not one of those who are superstitious concerning Friday. It was on Friday that many of the good things came to him, and it was on that day that he entered upon, paid the price and took possession of Gads Hill, the one thing he cherished more than all of his other possessions. It was Gads Hill that he had gazed upon when a wee bit of a boy, with a hope then giving little signs of fruition, that he might live to own it some day; and it was Gads Hill whose walls he covered with mirrors in almost Oriental magnificence.—Boston Record.

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